
1. Building Codes

Federal Government:

- Issues the **National Building Code**.
- Only directly applies to federally-owned land.
- Influences provincial codes for consistency nationwide.

Provincial Government:

- Ultimate authority on building codes.
- Usually adopts federal codes but can modify them.
- Some provinces (e.g., BC) have unique amendments.

Local Government:

- Implements the provincial building code.
- Can add local amendments, creating variations city-to-city.

2. Permitting

Federal Government:

- No direct role in local permitting.
- Supports harmonization and reforms through research and policy guidance.

Provincial Government:

- Handles permitting in less populated areas or for specialized permits (e.g., electrical, gas).
- Manages professional registrations required for permitting in some regions.

Local Government:

- Primarily responsible for issuing building permits.
- Permit requirements and costs vary significantly between municipalities.

3. Zoning

Federal Government:

- No direct zoning control except on federal lands.
- Indirectly influences zoning through funding (e.g., Housing Accelerator Fund).

Provincial Government:

- Holds formal responsibility for land use.
- Delegates zoning powers largely to municipalities.
- Occasionally intervenes directly in zoning issues.

Local Government:

- Main decision-maker on zoning.
- Controls land use and building approvals.
- Results in zoning policies varying greatly from one municipality to another.



4. Infrastructure Delivery

Federal Government:

- Manages infrastructure in the territories, Indigenous communities, and inter-provincial assets (e.g., airports, railways, telecommunications).
- Provides funding for provincial and municipal infrastructure projects.

Provincial Government:

- Responsible for regional infrastructure: highways, commuter rail, electricity transmission, etc.
- Builds and maintains schools, hospitals, and power generation facilities.
- Funds some municipal infrastructure, like roads and transit projects.

Local Government:

- Controls and funds construction and maintenance of local infrastructure, like roads, sidewalks, bridges, water, and sewer systems.
- Local infrastructure accounts for roughly **60%** of all infrastructure in Canada.

5. Job Safety

Federal Government:

- Oversees the **Canada Labour Code** for federally-regulated industries (e.g., transportation, banking).
- Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) coordinates safety education and guidelines.

Provincial Government:

- Sets and enforces occupational health and safety (OHS) laws for the construction industry.
- Has dedicated agencies (e.g., **WorkSafeBC** in British Columbia) for enforcement, investigation, and injury compensation.

Local Government:

- No direct responsibility or control over job safety regulations.

